GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:151
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2002
SERVICE CHARGES ON CELL PHONES
KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Cell Phone Companies are resorting to irrational service charges on the pre-paid cards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and;

(c) the remedial measures being taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the consumers of these pre-paid cards?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PR MAHAJAN)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STAI QUESTION NO. 151 FOR 24TH JULY, 2002 REGARDING SERVICE CHARGES ON CELL PHONES.

In terms of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, 1997, TRAI is responsible for fixation of tariffs for Telecom ServicesThe TRAI restrains Cellular Operators from implementing pre-paid tariff plans where the minutes of use in the pre-paid cards are unreasonable. Further, TRAI has recently issued directions to Cellular Operators to explicitly state and inform consumers of various terms and conditions regarding pre-paid cards.